

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DAMASC 03736 251326Z

60

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /057 W  
----- 118671

R 241522Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4688  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY UUWAIT  
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 3736

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, SY, IQ, US, IS  
SUBJECT: DAMASCUS RUMOR MILL--USG INITIATIVE; SYRO-IRAQI  
RECONCILIATION

1. KUWAITI AMBASSADOR HUSSEIN IS LATEST OF SEVERAL  
COLLEAGUES IN DAMASCUS TO QUERY ME RE SECRET VISIT  
ALLEGEDLY PAID DAMASCUS IN RECENT DAYS BY SENIOR STATE  
DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL TO INITIATE SYRO-ISRAELI NEGOTIATIONS.  
(AKTHERTON IS OFFICER MOST COMMONLY IDENTIFIED.) TOLD  
KUWAITI THIS WAS MERE SOUK RUMOR. SPREADING OUT HIS  
WARES, KUWAITI NOTED HE HAD HOARD SYRIAN GOVERNMENT HAD  
DECIDED SEND SENIOR MILITARY OFFICER, PERHAPS SHIHABI,  
TO WASHINGTON FOR NEGOTIATIONS, AT SAME TIME AS SARG  
HAS UNDER REVIEW ITS LONGSTANDING POLICY OF FORBIDDING  
FEDAYEEN TO OPERATE FROM GOLAN TERRITORY AGAINST ISRAELWM

2. KUWAITI THEN SAID HE HAD RECENTLY LEARNED THAT  
HIGHLY SECRET SYRIAN MISSION HAD BEEN DISPATCHED TO  
BAGHDAD WITHIN PAST TWO WEEKS TO OPEN DISCUSSIONS LEADING  
TO SYRO-IRAQI RECONCILIATION. SAID HE UNABLE VERIFY THIS  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 DAMASC 03736 251326Z

REPORT BUT CONSIDERED, IF TRUE, THAT IT WAS MOST SIGNIFICANT

OF ALL ARAB REACTION TO SINAI ACCORD. SAID HE HAD BEEN MONITORING IRAQI RADIO OUT PUT ON PERIODIC BASIS AND CONSIDERED THERE HAD BEEN SHARP REDUCTION SINCE SEPTEMBER 1 IN CAMPAIGN OF VITUPERATION AGAINST SYRIA.

3. SYRIAN COURTSHIP OF IRAQIS, KIWAITI ASSUMED, SOUGHT TO ATTRACT IRAQ'S ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT IN THE EASTERN FRONT. THIS, HE ARGUED, WOULD CONTRIBUTE GREATLY TO FRONT'S EFFECTIVENESS; IN CONTRAST, MILITARY COORDINATION BETWEEN JORDAN AND SYRIA WOULD BE VIRTUALLY MEANINGLESS IN TERMS ADDING MUSCLE TO THE FRONT.

4. COMMENT: ABOVE SUMMARIZED SOME OF THE MORE COMMON RUMORS FLOATING AROUND DAMASCUS AS SYRIA PURSUES ITS PUBLIC ATTACKS ON EGYPT. SYRIAN LINE HAS HARDENED REGARDING ANY FUTURE SYRO-ISRAELI NEGOTIATIONS AS SHOWN IN PRIME MIN AYYOUBI'S SEPTEMBER 22 STATEMENT TO SYRIAN PARLIAMENT (I.E., THAT SYRIA WOULD REJECT ANY AGREEMENT COSTING EVEN A FRACTION OF WHAT EGYPT PAID FOR SINAI ACCORD AND WOULD EVEN REFUSE ACCEPT ALL OF GOLAN SHOULD ISRAEL SEEK IMPOSE POLITICAL OR NON-POLITICAL CONDITIONS.)

5. ACTION REQUESTED:  
ANALYSIS OF BAGHDAD AND DAMASCUS BROADCASTS FROM PERIOD SEPTEMBER 1 TO DATE TO DETERMINE WHETHER IN FACT MUD SLINGING CAMPAIGN HAS SIGNIFICANTLY ABATED.  
MURPHY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, ALLEGATIONS, NEGOTIATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 SEP 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ellisob  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975DAMASC03736  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750333-0275  
**From:** DAMASCUS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750919/aaaaaqkx.tel  
**Line Count:** 88  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ellisob  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 30 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <30 JUL 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <26 NOV 2003 by ellisob>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DAMASCUS RUMOR MILL--USG INITIATIVE; SYRO-IRAQI RECONCILIATION  
**TAGS:** PFOR, SY, IZ, US, IS  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006